

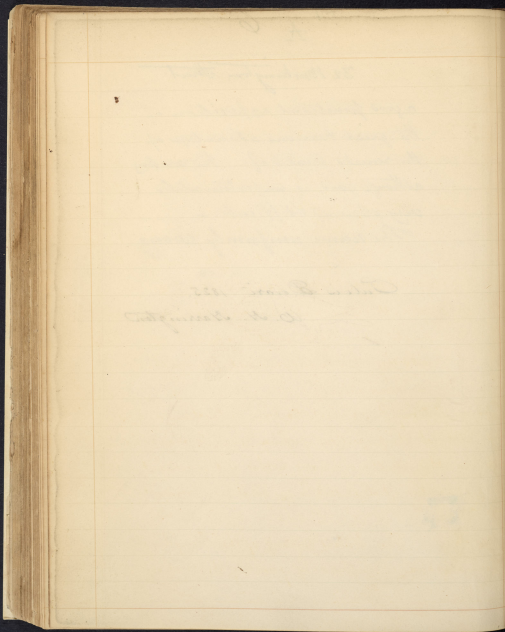
32 Washington Street

a good practical exposition of
the great & various advantages of
the remedy treated of - The writing
although good, is unfortunately
very obscure & difficult. -

The name uniformly wrong

Culvis Doran 1825.

W. H. Harrington



he complied with the established laws of the Uni-
-versity of Pennsylvania. I presume to offer for consideration
the following treatise on the medical properties of the
Lava's powder.

The inventor's directions for preparing
this useful medicine are as follows.

Rj. Opium Specios et Glycyrrhiza \mathfrak{z} i

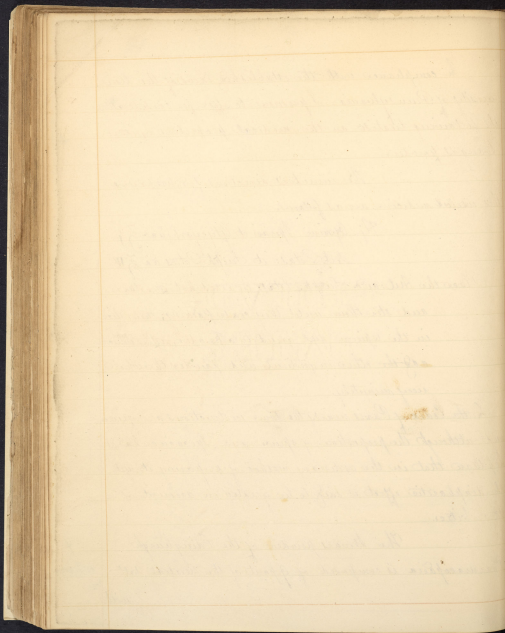
M℥ Potas: et Sulph Potas aa \mathfrak{z} iv

Place the Nit: acid. Sulph. Potas: in a red hot mortar

and stir them until they cease flaming; then throw
in the Opium and grind to a powder, after which
add the other ingredients and powder the whole
very minutely.

In the Codex of Paris nearly the same instructions are given
out, although the proportions of opium and Speciosa are
less than that in the ordinary method of preparing it, yet
the diaphoretic effect is said to be greater on account of
the Nitric.

The Lava's powder of the Edinburgh
Pharmacopæia is composed of 9 parts of the Neutral salt ^{where}
with



with one of opium and one of Ipecac. The doses of this therefore will be nearly the same as that of the London College 11 grains of the former being equivalent to 10 of the latter.

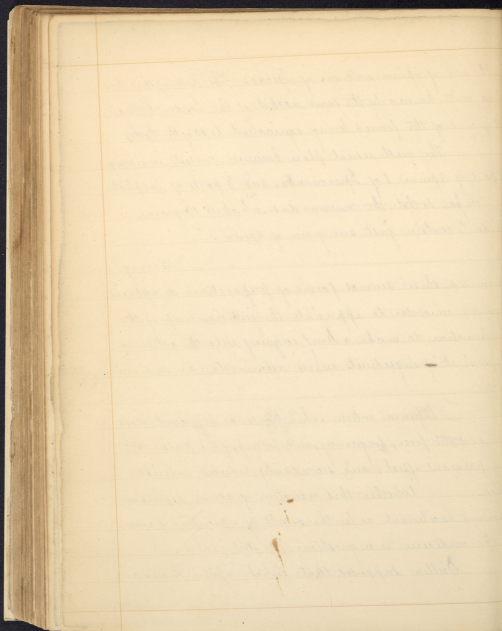
The most usual plan however, consists in using 1 part of Opium, 1 of Ipecacuanha, and 8 parts of Sulphate of Potash, so that the common dose, which is 10 grains, is made to contain just one grain of opium.

Having premised these several forms of preparation, it appears requisite in order to appreciate the judiciousness of the combination to make a brief enquiry into the action of the several ingredients when administered individually.

Opium when exhibited in a sufficient dose increases the force, frequency, and fulness of the pulse &c as a primary effect, and secondarily reduces arterial action.

Whether this reduction of action depends on previous excitement or be the result of a peculiar power in the medicine is a question left sub-judice.

Cullen supposes that while opium increases
the



the action of the arterial system, it acts as a sedative to the cutaneous organs, and thus by exciting the former, relaxing the latter, produces a certain and a powerful diaphoresis.

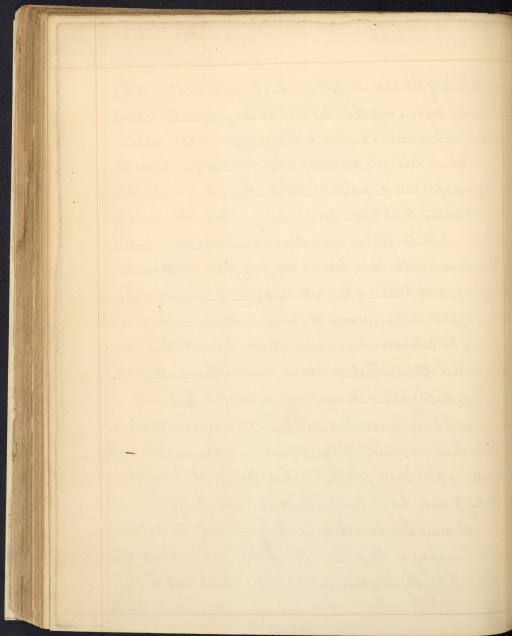
Opium does not, commonly when unaccompanied by other medicines, produce a moisture on the skin, but on the contrary has a tendency to abstract perspiration. — Hence the parched skin and arid tongue so frequently observed in opium-eaters. When, however, the skin becomes dry from pain, irritation, or irregular distribution of the circulating fluids, Opium will, when applied in time, remove the cause and permit the natural action of the cutaneous organs. — Hence its use in the forming stage of cataract. — That it has no direct influence in promoting diaphoresis is demonstrated by the fact that it is very useful in moderating excessive cutaneous evacuations.

We have no remedy of equal power in restraining the night-sweats of phthisical patients. — And that it checks excretions is fully proved, by its beneficial tendency in coryza.

It may then be asked, of what use is it in the celebrated remedy of Emac? — The question is easily answered.

There is hardly one case in which this diaphoretic is pre-

scribing

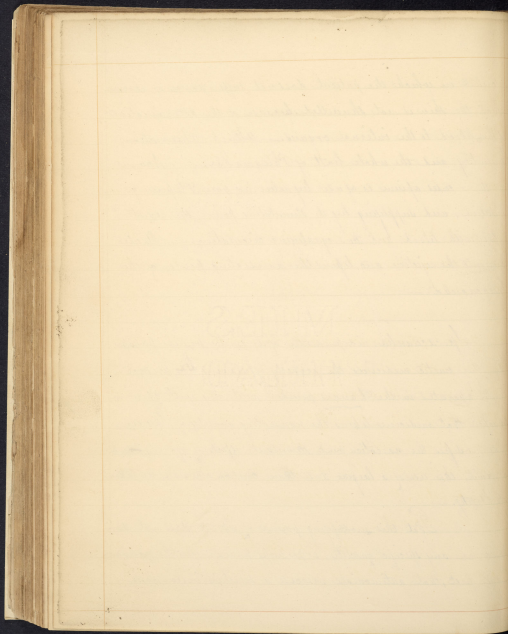


scabid, in which the patient does not suffer pain, or disease
which, the skin is not shrivelled because of the determination
of the blood to the internal organs. — Isidius Rheumatism
hysteria, and the whole host of Phlegmasias. — Now in
all these cases opium is of use by relieving pain, & lessening
irritation, and supplying by its stimulating power the senate
with blood and thus equalizing circulation. — It also
lessens the irritation and lessens the nauseating power of the
Spasmodics. —

Spasmodics, independently of its emetic power, possesses
like other emetic medicines, the property of clearing the surface. —

It operates in the Tanais powder, mutually with opium,
for which that medicine lessens the nauseating quality of Spasmodics
it so modifies the narcotic and stimulant effects of opium, — as
to permit the use of a larger dose than could otherwise be taken
with safety. —

That this modifying power of Spasmodics does not de-
pend on any specific quality, is perhaps proved by the acknow-
ledged fact, that antimonials exercise a similar influence. —



Bottler supplies these large doses of opium which are some-
times administered in the Dana's powder, become safe because
the other ingredients they are directed to treat, and that
opium is dependent for its usefulness in such cases, merely on
its power as an individual of the class antispasmodics.

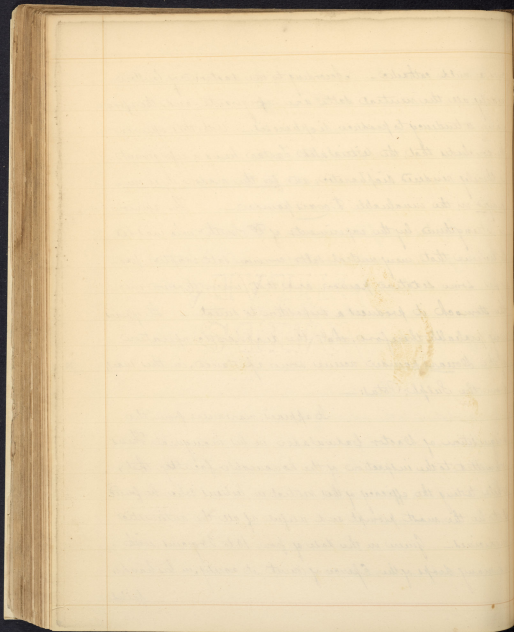
Sulphur Potass is supposed to be serviceable in the
Dana's powder, merely as a mechanical agent, preparing the
powder by its sharp & gritty crystals, of dividing and mixing
more intimately the other ingredients, and it is affirmed,
the efficacy of the remedy depends very much on its being
well powdered.

There has been but little mentioned by medical
writers relative to the action of this component, and the majority
is in favour of the belief of its mechanical agency, - notwithstanding
which, however, I think I may very safely infer from the facts
I have collected, that its efficacy depends on some other property
which is medicinal.

All writers, in their history of this salt,
concede that in small doses it is an aperient, and in large
doses.

ous a mild cathartic. According to the doctrine of Cullen
nearly all the neutral salts are refrigerants, and therefore
have a tendency to produce diaphoresis. With this opinion
he concludes that, the vitriolated Tactus being a refrigerant
is thereby rendered diaphoretic; and for this reason it is em-
ployed in the invaluable Doan's powder. — This opinion
is strengthened by the experiments of Dr Smith, who was led
to believe that many neutral salts (common salt excepted) pro-
duce some sedative power, and that when thrown into
the stomach it produces a disposition to sweat. — It appears
very probable therefore, that the diaphoretic operation
of the Doan's powder receives some assistance, in this way,
from the Sulph. Potat: —

It appears, moreover, from the
disquisition of Doctor Cadwalader, in his inaugural Thesis
submitted to the inspection of the honorable faculty, that,
while testing the efficacy of this neutral in bilious colic, he found
it to be the most prompt and useful of all the antispasmodic
medicines. Given in the dose of from 10 to 20 grains with
as many drops of the Essence of Mint it rarely, in his hands,
failed.



failed to restrain the most alarming and excessive vomitings
incident to this painful and dreadful disease. — This fact
obviously militates against the theory of its purely mechanical
agency. — But what will be said against my inferential
position, when I state that it does possess the power of
exciting the cutaneous organs, and has, from this circumstance
been found to be singularly useful in the treatment of cuta-
neous disorders? — There is now vended in Europe a med-
icine consisting solely of the Sulph. Potas. which has received
the most unbounded extenuation and from actual experience
its use has been found to be extremely efficacious in the
treatment of diseases of the skin. — Consequently although
some benefit may be derived from the mechanical agency of
the Sulph. Potas. in dividing and moving more intimately the
other ingredients, thus rendering a specific operation, yet
from what I have stated I think, the is plausible reason
to infer that the medicinal power is excited in the Dosis powder. — I

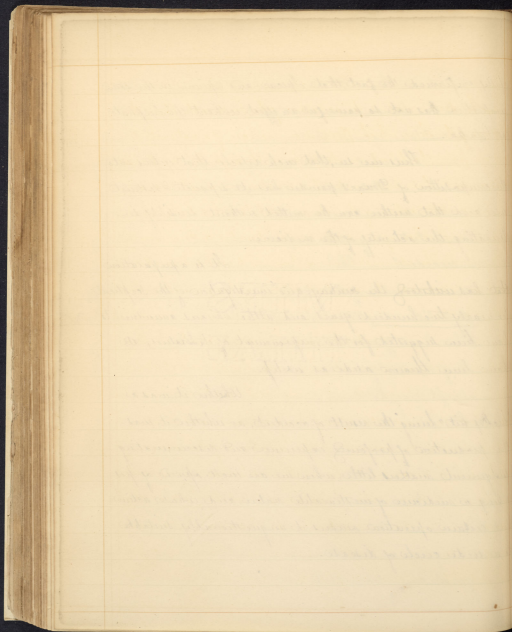
However, admitting the one or the other theory concerning
the action of this compound we are naturally brought to the
same conclusion relative to its utility, since experiment has
fully

fully confirmed the fact, that Opium and Opium in the same proportion has not so powerful an effect without the Sulphate of Potash.

Thus we see, that each article that enters into the composition of Douars powder has its separate & distinct use and that nothing can be omitted without sensibly deteriorating the activity of the medicine.

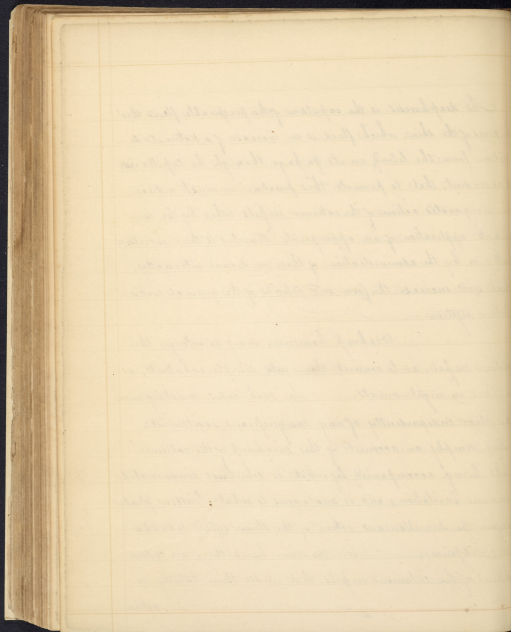
It is a preparation that has withstood the scrutiny and investigation of the sceptical for nearly two hundred years, and altho' various amendments have been suggested for the improvement of its virtues, all have been thrown aside as useless.

Whether it was a "lucky hit" being the result of accident, or whether it was the production of profound experience and discriminating judgment matters little, when we are well assured of possessing a medicine of inestimable value, and whose action and certain operations render it unquestionably suitable to a wide circle of disease.



As diaphoresis is the expulsion of the perspirable fluid thro' the pores of the skin, which fluid is an increase of a natural secretion from the blood in its passage through the capillaries; it is evident that to promote this function we must induce an invigorated action of the extreme vessels, either by the immediate application of an appropriate stimulus to their excretory ducts; or by the administration of those medicines internally, which will increase the force and activity of the general circulatory system.

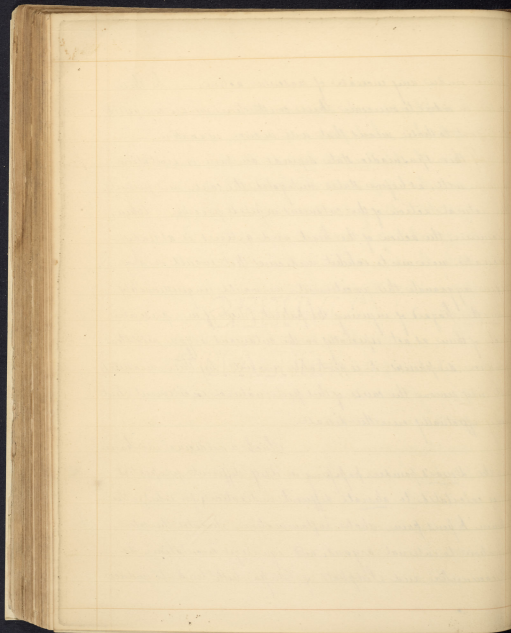
Weakness, however, may so enlarge the excretory vessels, as to convert them into simple exhalants, as happens in night sweats. In such cases, sweating may take place independently of any sanguiferous excitement, arising simply on account of this weakness of the extreme vessels being accompanied by what is sometimes denominated a nervous irritation; and is analogous to what Colles phrases to define the simultaneous action of the stomach and sedative powers of Opium. On the other hand there are certain conditions of the cutaneous vessels, that under them totally inactive



action under any increase of vascular action. — In these cases, in order to overcome these contractions we are compelled to resort to those means that will induce relaxation.

If this spasmodic state depends on pain or irritation *apium* will, as before stated mitigate the cause and permit the natural action of the cutaneous vessels to proceed. When, however, the action of the heart and arteries is already increased, were we to exhibit medicines that would in any degree aggravate this excitement, we would unquestionably run the hazard of injuring the patient; but if we prescribe such of them as act especially on the cutaneous organs, and thus produce diaphoresis, it is probable we will by these means, not only remove the cause of this preternatural excitement, but may effectually cure the disease.

Such a medicine we have in the *Spiraei powder*, possessing in itself different properties it is calculated to abate different indications; for while the *apium* lessens pain, abates inflammation, abates the determination to internal organs, and equalizes circulation, the *Spiraeia* and *Sulphate of Potassa* both tend to induce

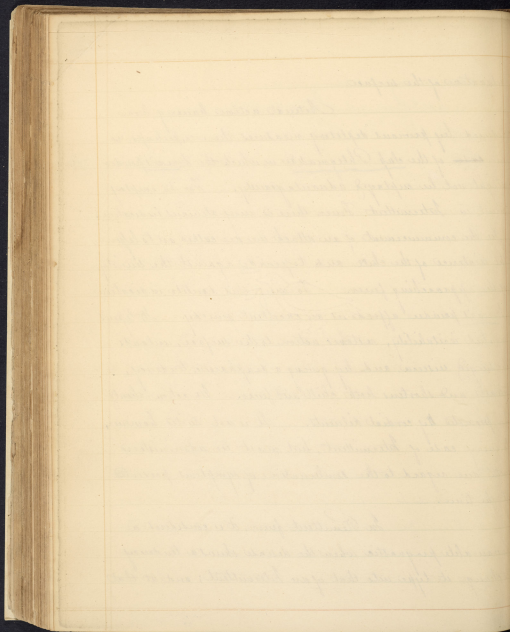


relaxation of the surface.

Artificial action having been reduced by previous depletory measures, there is, perhaps, no ~~case~~ ^{case} of the slow Phlegmatic in which the Bonac's powder might not be employed advantageously. For its employment in Intermittent Fever, there is many obvious indications.

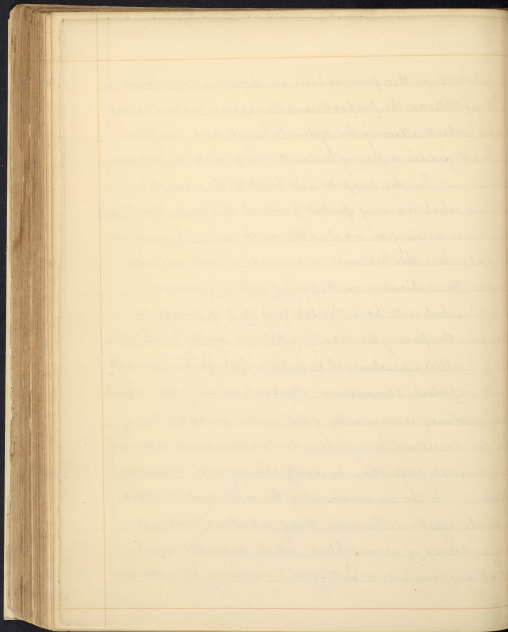
In the commencement of an attack, we are called on to lessen the violence of the chill, and to provide against the severity of the approaching fever. To meet this double indication Bonac's powder affords us an excellent remedy. It lessens morbid irritability, restores action to the surface, unloads the tangled viscera, and by giving a diaphoretic tendency, abates and shortens both chill and fever. Its action should be promoted by cordial diluents. It is not suited, however, to every case of Intermittent, but must be administered with due regard to the combination of symptoms presented at the time.

In Remittent fever, it is considered as favourable prognostic, when the disease shows a tendency to change its type into that of an Intermittent; and at that



conjecture in this fever, where an disposition to perspiration
is perceptible on the forehead, and this appears inclined to pass
away without allowing the system to benefit by a remission;
the most judicious plan of treatment is to promote the cutaneous
action. — For this purpose, and to establish a complete re-
mission, which is a very essential point at this time, the Bovae
panacea is certainly an invaluable medicine. — In many in-
stances where this treatment is pursued, it will not only
favour the inclination on the part of nature to produce a
remission, but will have the salutary effect of successfully
changing the form of the disease to that of a simple intermittent.

It is a practical observation, that the primary and
most important phenomenon attendant on congestive diseases,
is the deficiency or irregularity of heat on the surface & that if
this can be restored, every where, to its natural warmth, and
an universal perspiration be excited, recovery will frequently
follow. — In the commencement of the most violent attacks
of febrile affections, there are strong indications of internal
accumulations of venous blood, which frequently can be
effectually removed or mitigated, by restoring the natural

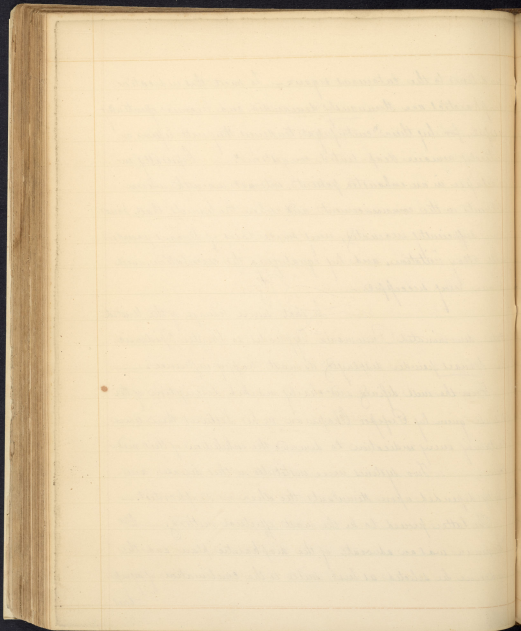


conditions to the catarrhus vesicae - To meet this indication
diaphoretics are themselves demanded, and become essentially
useful, for by their centrifugal tendency they will loosen or
entirely remove deep seated congestions. - Especially in
a collapse in an exhausted patient, internal warmth, warm
drinks in the commencement, and when the bowels shall have
been sufficiently evacuated, very small doses of Doan's powder
will allay irritation, and by equalizing the circulation, will
prove very successful. -

Diaphoretics In that severe range of the United
States, denominated Pneumonia Typhodes, or Venter Epidemic.
the Doan's powder displayed its most happy influence. -

From the well defined and clearly marked description of the
disease given by Professor Chapman in his Lectures, there were
certainly every indication to demand the exhibition of this med-
icine. Two systems were instituted in this disease, one
partly depended upon Stimulants, the other on diaphoretics. -

The latter proved to be the most effectual method. - For
Chapman was an advocate of the diaphoretic plan, and the
medicine he selected as best suited to the culmination of symp-
toms



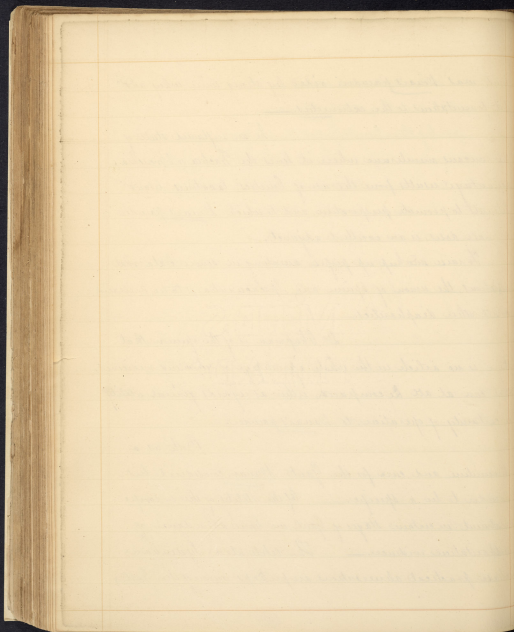
lous, was Dava's powder aided by strong wine whey and
hot fomentations to the extremities.

In an inflamed state of
the mucous membrane where it lines the Trachea or Bronchia,
advantage results from the use of Emetics, leucities, blaud
diluent to promote perspiration, and to which Dava's powder
in small doses, is an excellent adjunct.

To raise and keep up perspiration in severe Catarrhs
of the lungs, the union of Opium and Spicacaula is to be preferred
to all other diaphoretics.

Dr Chapman is of the opinion that
there is no article in the whole armamentary of sweating medicines,
that can at all be compared, either as regards general utility
or certainty of operation, to Dava's powder.

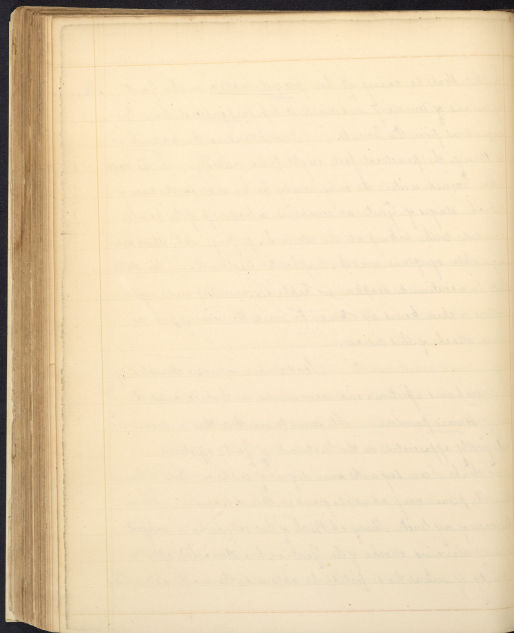
Both as a
prevention and cure for the Gout, Dava considered his
powder to be a specific. — As the utility of the sudorific
treatment in certain stages of Gout, we have abundance of
authoritative evidence. — The celebrated Sydenham
(whose practical observations are perhaps among the best)



thinks that to carry off the present matter in the Gout by means of sweating medicines, is less judicious than by evacuations from the bowels. Notwithstanding the badness of the theory, the practical fact ought to be valued. In the days of this learned writer, the only remedy he knew of for the cure of such stages of Gout as occasioned a loosening of the bowels attended with sickness at the stomach, gripings and other disagreeable symptoms, was the diaphoretic treatment. He states that to a continued diaphoresis kept up morning and night for two or three hours at a time, he owed his recovery from a severe attack of this disease.

Spelman increases the solidity of Sydenham's aphorism, and recommends in chronic cases the use of Boerhaave's powder. It seems to me that this medicine is not justly appreciated in the treatment of Gouty affections.

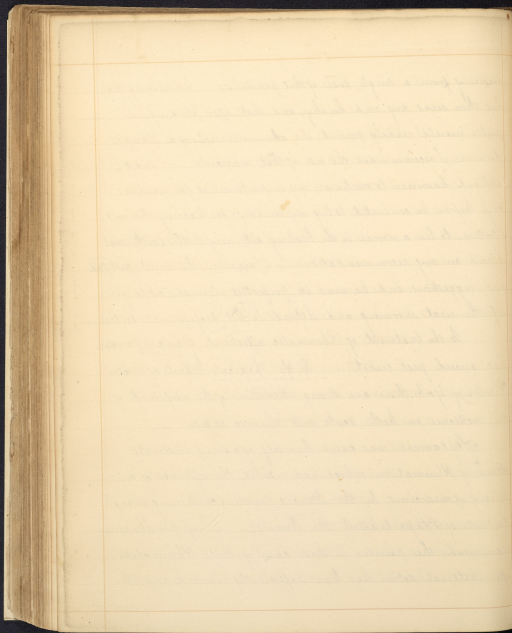
I think I can say with some degree of candour that I have seen it prove very advantageous in this disease. For in the case of my brother Henry & Meek of this city, (who is subject to very alarming attacks of the Gout in his stomach,) after a variety of means had failed, he obtained the most astonishing



recovery from a single dose of this powder. — Observing that
his skin was dry and knotty, and that, after bleeding, his
pulses would readily permit the administration of a Druggs
powder, I recommended the use of that medicine. — I was
obliged however to continue my importunities for several
days before he consented to try my remedy; for having the mis-
fortune to be a novice in the healing art, very little faith was
placed in my recommendation. — However, the result justified
my suggestions, and he was so perfectly relieved, as to get
up the next morning and attend to his professional duties.

In the treatment of Rheumatic affections, Druggs powder
has received just credit. — In the Medical Reports of Doctor
Fowler of York there are strong attestations of the usefulness of
this medicine in both acute and chronic cases.

Dr. Saml. was cured himself, of a very obstinate
attack of Rheumatism, which had resisted the influence of a
variety of medicines, by the Druggs powder, combining enough
Sulphate of Potash to affect the bowels. — Professor Chapman
recommends this powder in those cases of Acute Rheumatism
after arterial action has been sufficiently reduced and the



sweating period indicated. — It is worthy of observation here-
-ever that, ^{he} prefers the precautionary use of the antimonial
diaphanics previous to the exhibition of Wauver's powder.

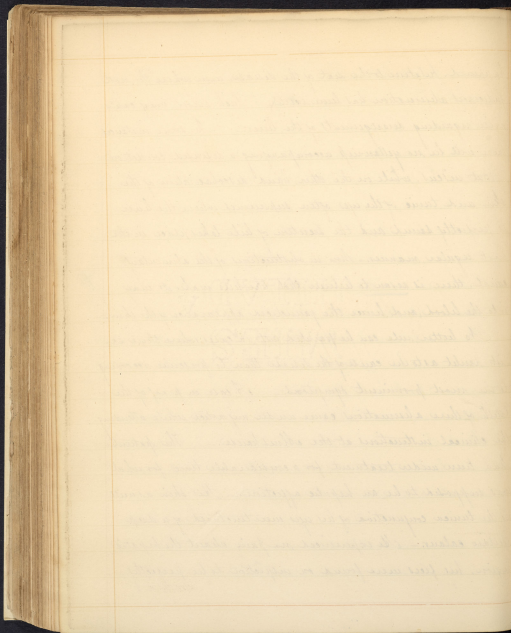
During the Spring term last year, there came under the
charge of the practising physician of the Almshouse, several
cases of chronic Rheumatism, some of which were of the most
intractable character. — These he proposed to treat, exclusively,
by sudorifics, and directed 10 grs of Wauver's powder to be given
every hour, in succession, for twelve hours; and when sweating
had commenced, the operation to be aided by diluents. —

The success however, that attended this course of treatment
was restricted in a great measure, to those cases in which
the vapour bath and hot decoction of Eupatorium Per-
foliatum were used simultaneously with Wauver's powder. —

Without this combined operation little benefit was obtained.
While with them, much relief was experienced and a cure of
several old and obstinate cases effected. — ^{As the human organism is composed of many tissues} Every viscous
has a texture peculiar to itself, and is subjected to diseases
from which the others are free and frequently mistakes have

happened. Relative to the seat of the disease, even where the most judicious observation has been exerted. Such errors may easily arise regarding derangements of the liver. In some instances there will be no yellowness accompanying a diseased condition of that viscus, while on the other hand discolouration of the skin and tunica of the eyes often supervenes, when the liver is perfectly sound and the secretion of bile takes place in the most regular manner. Now in obstructions of the alimentary canal, there is reason to believe that the bile makes its way into the blood, and hence the jaundiced appearance of the skin.

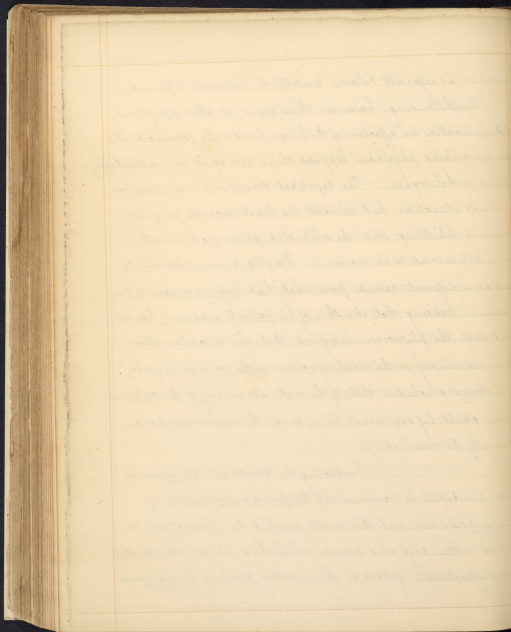
No better rule can be pointed out, in cases where there exists doubt as to the cause of the disease than to prescribe according to the most prominent symptoms. A case in proof of the truth of these observations came under my notice while attending the clinical instructions at the Blue Room. This patient had been under treatment for a considerable time, for what was supposed to be an hepatic affection. His skin as well as the tunica conjunctiva of his eyes were tinged with a deep yellow colour. He experienced no pain about the hepatic region, his feces were found on inspection to be perfectly



natural as regarded colour, consistence, interval & period.

Notwithstanding, however, there were no other symptoms that indicated an affection of the liver besides the jaundiced skin the prescribing physician supposed there did exist an undeveloped disease of that organ. The hepatic treatment was, therefore, put into operation, but without the least success. purging, bleeding, blistering, and the celebrated plan of Shermott were all resorted to in vain. Finally it was resolved to employ a different course from what had been previously pursued. Noticing that the skin of his patient was very harsh and dry, the physician imagined that the discoloration depended simply on the want of action in the cutaneous vessels, and thence concluded, that if the natural energy of the cutaneous organ could by any means be restored, the disease would consequently be removed.

Conducting his treatment, therefore, on these principles, he recommended the free administration of Lavau's powder, and the result verified his prediction; for in two or three days this disease, which had resisted all the other modes of treatment, yielded to the sweating plan by Lavau's powder.



and the man's skin became as clean and natural as it ever was in his life.

With the most decided advantage has the Guaia powder been employed in Dysentery, Diarrhoea, and Diabetis. Sudorifics are often necessary in this last disease.

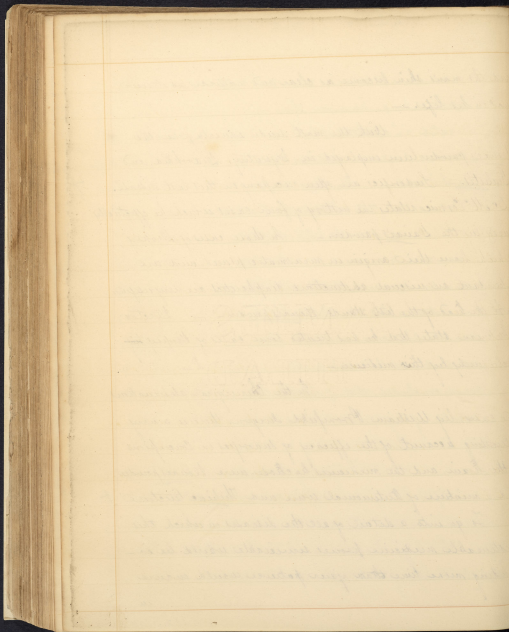
Dr. Will. Cerrine relates the history of four cases which he effectually cured by the Guaia powder.

In those cases of Dropsy which have their origin in miasmatic places, and are dependant on visceral obstructions, diaphoretics are very useful.

At the head of the list stands Guaia powder. Doctor Chapman states that he has treated some cases of Dropsy ~~by~~ exclusively by this medicine.

In the Surgical obstructions and cases, by William Bromfield, Surgeon, there is a very interesting account of the efficacy of Sudorifics in Conceptions of the Brain, and the medicines he chose, were Guaia powder and a mixture of Rutenomach wine and Tubina tincture.

To go into a detail of all the diseases in which this inestimable medicine proves serviceable would be expending more time than your patience would endure.



in the puerary, and I will therefore conclude the practical application by noting but one disease more in which I think it deserves our highest esteem. — This disease is the Bilious Colic. — In a violent attack of this disease, after evacuation if required, and mechanical distension by a large quantity of hot water, the Bonars powder proves a very efficient medicine. — It overcomes the constricted condition of the alimentary canal, and thus paving the way permits the administration of laxative medicines. —

The patient in a few minutes is completely relieved from pain and spasm. a grateful perspiration is in a short time induced, and, in some cases, he gradually sinks into a calm and refreshing slumber. — The bowels which were, before the reduction of spasm, impervious to the action of cathartics are now disposed to evacuation and by the use of the aqueous mixture, a discharge from the intestines takes place, and the cure is thus, speedily effected.

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The inaugural essay

on

the history of

the life of Lord of Salisbury

in

the University of Cambridge.

By

Papal Smith

of the University of Cambridge.

18 1825

